

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 1 line 1 and continuing to line 2.

**NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING DB, THE RECEPTOR FOR  
LEPTIN, NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING THE RECEPTOR, AND  
USES THEREOF**

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 25 line 7 and continuing to line 14.

The terms "protein," which refers to the naturally occurring polypeptide, and "polypeptide" are used herein interchangeably with respect to the *OB-R* gene product and variants thereof. More particularly, OB-R refers to any of the splice forms of the *OB-R* (*DB*) gene product, such as but not limited to the product with two JAC JAK binding boxes in the cytoplasmic domain; the product with only one JAK binding box in the cytoplasmic domain; the product with no boxes; and the secreted (soluble) product. The term OB-R also refers to various splice-forms with divergent N-terminal amino acid sequences.